

Docket No. F-8023

Ser. No. 10/700,850

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

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Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Paragraph bridging pages 24-25:

The bottom member 20 having the above-described structure has increased plane rigidity, and therefore is capable of firmly supporting the inner container 1 in a radial direction by the supporting member 14 through the bridging member 11. In this embodiment, in particular, the outer container 2 supports the bridging member 11 around its axis by the supporting member 16 provided inside the cover member 12. The bridging member 11 has a play S, i.e., clearance, formed by a hole 2y about its axis, with the outer container 2.

Paragraph bridging pages 33-35:

Finally, as an example, the cover member 12 is in a circular cap form having an annular attachment seat 12a serving as an outwardly oriented flange on its opening, as in the examples shown in FIGS. 1 to 4, FIGS. 5 and 6, FIGS. 7 and 8, FIGS. 9 to 12, and FIGS. 13 to 15. The attachment seat 12a is placed on the outer

Docket No. F-8023

Scr. No. 10/700,850

circumference of the central horizontal portion 2v inside the step 2x provided for the bottom member [[20]] 20 of the outer container 2. Through the attachment seat 12a, the space between the inner container 1 and the outer container 2 and the space inside the cover member 12 are sealed in a vacuum state. Such vacuum pumping and sealing are achieved, for example, in the following manner. The attachment seat 12a of the cover member 12 is placed through a sealing material such as a brazing metal or a glass seal so as to leave a vacuum-pumping path with the central horizontal portion 2v being upwardly oriented. In this state, the spaces are pumped to a vacuum in a vacuum-pump furnace. A vacuum area in the vacuum-pump furnace extends to the space inside the cover member 12 and the space between the inner container 1 and the outer container 2 through the vacuum-pumping path between the attachment seat 12a and the central horizontal portion 2v, inside the cover member 12, between the supporting member 16 and the bridging cover member 12, and the hole 2y. With the aid of a heating environment, the whole area of the inner space from the inside of the cover member 12 to the space between the inner container 1 and the outer container 2 reaches a predetermined degree of vacuum. Simultaneously, the sealing material is molten at the boundary between the central horizontal portion 2v and the cover member 12 by heating with the atmosphere so as to extend between the central horizontal portion 2v and the cover member 12 owing to its own wetting property. Thereafter, the sealing material is cooled to be solidified, thereby forming a sealing portion 51 for sealing the vacuum spaces 3 and 13 at the boundary. A sealing

Docket No. F-8023

Ser. No. 10/700,850

structure is not limited thereto; various structures may be employed by using various sealing materials.